

How SMW Is Used at BBN

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[Semantic MediaWiki Conference Spring 2011](#)

Arlington, Virginia

29 April 2011

Welcome!

- BBN is pleased to host SMWCon Spring 2011
- Staff available to help
 - Suzanne Collier
 - Mike Dean
 - Gaia Eirich
 - Ian Emmons
 - Art Marineau
 - Dorene Ryder

Outline

- BBN Background
- 6 examples of using SMW+
- Personal Perspective

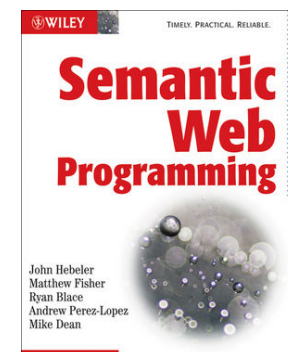
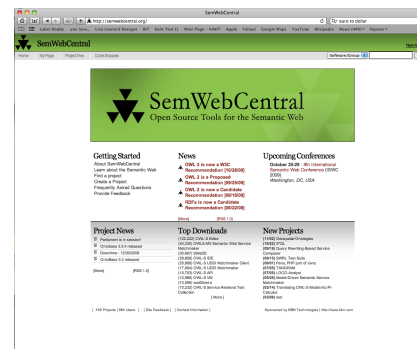
BBN Overview

- Advanced technology R&D firm specializing in Information, Computer, and Physical Sciences
- Founded 1948
- 750 employees
- Principal offices in Cambridge, MA and the Washington, DC area
- DARPA is our biggest customer
- Acquired by Raytheon in 2009

Semantic Web @ BBN

*From defining standards to operational integration.
Over a decade of leadership experience.*

- **Foundational:** *Contributing to standards and technologies*
 - Integration and Transition contractor for DARPA Agent Markup Language
 - Member of W3C RDF Core, WebOnt, and RIF Working Groups
 - Currently developing SILK rule language
 - *Book: Semantic Web Programming: Wiley 2009*
 - Hosted ISWC 2009
 - Host and maintain <http://semwebcentral.org>
 - Tools: Interactive Disambiguation GUI, Asio™ federated query, Parliament™ storage
- **Applications:** *Addressing real-world, operational challenges*
 - Geospatial semantics
 - Data integration
 - Disambiguation
 - Analysis
 - Visualization



DARPA Seedling (2008)

- Investigate use of SMW+ for crowdsourcing
- Experiment
 - Had RPI undergraduates watch clips from Survivor reality TV show, annotate using SMW+, and answer questions
- Discussed by Jie Bao at SMWCon Spring 2010
- Results inconclusive
- Non-trivial effort to install and synchronize MW, SMW, SMW+ layers

ISWC 2009 Web Site

- <http://iswc2009.semanticweb.org>
- Custom HTML home page – SMW+ used for everything else
- Great for distributed updates
 - Big improvement over ISWC 2003 (HTML) and ISWC 2008 (WordPress)
- Little use of semantics ☹
 - Companion data.semanticweb.org site already established

Department Wiki, Take 1

- 2009 reorganization motivated creating a new Wiki
 - Had been using TWiki
 - Small window of opportunity
- Showstopper
 - Lack of support for page-specific attachments

SILK Project Wiki

- <http://silk.bbn.com>
- Coordinate software development activities in this Vulcan-sponsored project
- Password-protected
- Limited use of categories, properties, and queries
 - People, Meetings, Deliverables, etc.
- Wikipedia style isn't a natural fit
 - Significant time curating home page links
 - Users don't search
- Recent upgrade to SMW+ 1.5.2 on new server was uneventful
 - Ontoprise Deployment Framework worked well

Customer Relationship Management

- Action item from department offsite
- Internal demonstration using SMW+
 - Customers and past performance data
- Needs
 - Templates
 - Some pattern/mechanism for tracking changes over time, e.g. Property:Former Program Manager
 - Might use Semantic Internal Objects or Type:Record
 - Extend information available on customer web sites and LinkedIn.com
- New site launched by Business Development staff
 - WordPress maintained by admins, librarians
- Some discussions on merging

Department Wiki, Take 2

- Late 2010 reorganization provided a second opportunity to switch
- Used commercial SMW+
 - Support for attachments
 - Provided templates were helpful and attractive
 - VMware distribution seemed to fit well with use of Xen on new servers
- Developed our own ontology
- Still sluggish despite some VM optimizations
 - Mixed response even from Semantic Web developers
- Looking for a good calendar

BBN Person

User page

Discussion

Refresh

History

Edit

?

More

BBN Details

Start Date:

1-1-2011

Current Position:

Program Manager I

Business Unit:

KnowledgeEngineeringGroup

Manager:

Manages:

Projects

R2641 Response 1, SMW Configuration 1

Relationship holder detail

ExternalOrganization

ContactForPursuit

ExternalPOC

SMW Pursuit

John Smith

Other Relationships

User:Scollier knows:

User:DoreneRyder, User:Dreid

Categories: User | Person | BBNPerson

Suzanne Collier

vCard

First name:

Suzanne

Last name:

Collier

Email:

scollier@bbn.com

Affiliation:

BBN

Phone:

703-284-1311

Active Tasks (3)

Add new task

Task 1

responsible person: User:Scollier,

related to: User:Scollier, SMW Configuration 1

ends: 28 January 2011,

completed: 0%

Task 2

responsible person: User:Scollier,

related to: SMW Configuration 1, User:Scollier

ends: unknown,

completed: 0%

Task 3

responsible person: User:Scollier,

related to: COBRA 1, User:Scollier

ends: unknown,

completed: 2%

Upcoming Events (0)

Add new event

• none

[History](#)
[Edit](#)
[?](#)
[More](#)

SMW Pursuit

Summar of Pursuit

Status: Active

Capture Manager: Dorene Ryder

Client: BBN Technologies

Contact Details

<div> <div>BBN Relationship</div> <div>Holder</div> </div> <div>Scollier</div>	<div> <div>External</div> <div>POC</div> </div> <div>John Smith</div>
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Important Dates

Date	Description
6 May 2011	BAA Due

Responses

Create a Response

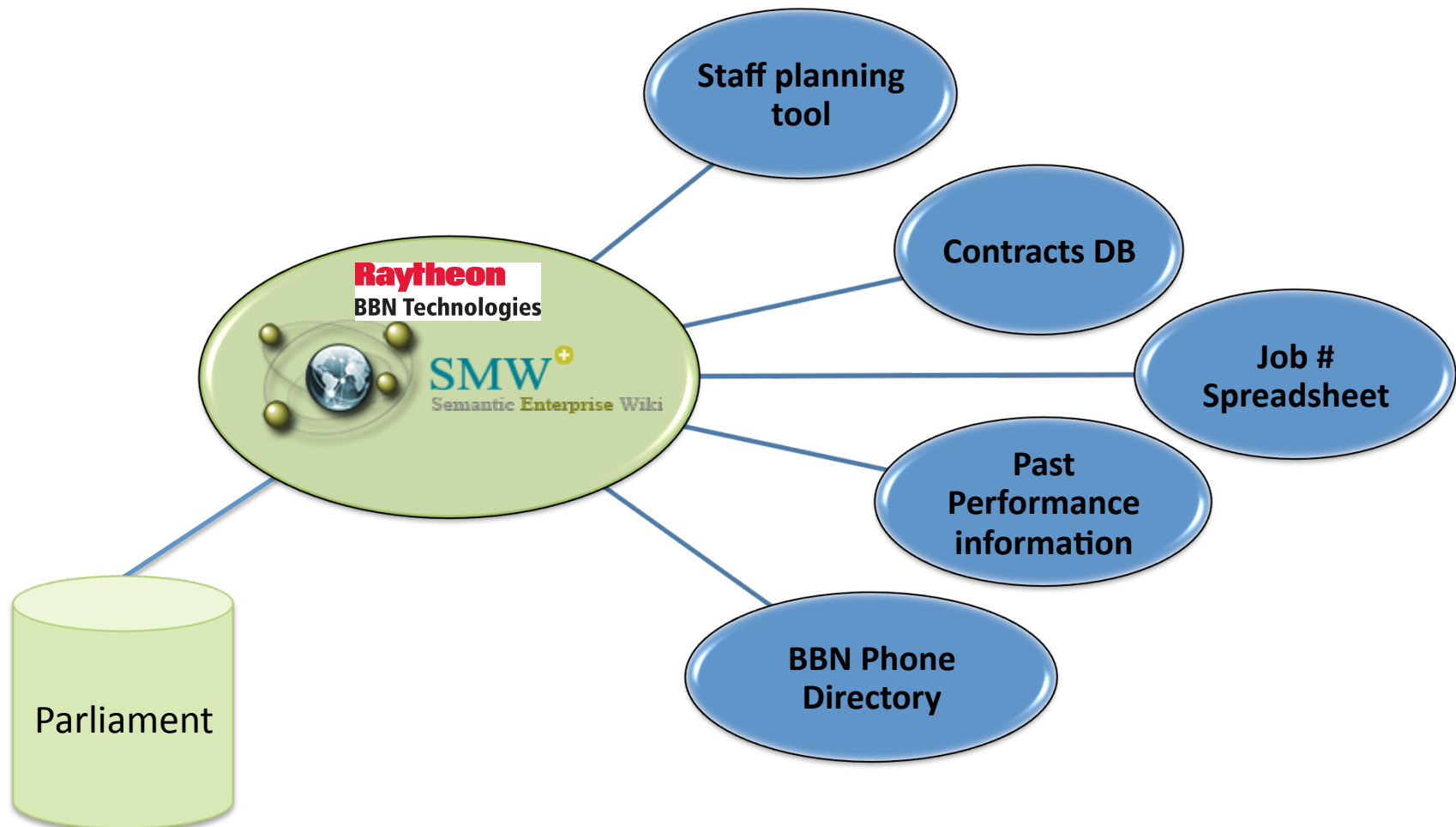
Solicitation Details

Solicitation Number: 1234

Solicitation Type: BAA

Solicitation Homepage: <http://bbn.com>

Vision: Connecting BBN Information



Personal Perspectives

- Remain excited about SMW
 - Most promising tool for user annotations
- Great for existing MW users
 - Intellipedia still seems like a golden opportunity
- Glad to see an active developer and user community
- Look forward to the rest of the conference